

12361 Charlotte Street
Kansas City, MO 64146

January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my belief that you should accept the settlement reached between your department and Microsoft. This case has been going on for three years. If you choose to return to court and litigate an outcome, it may be three more years before a judgment is reached, and then additional time will be required for appeals.

The agreement your department reached with Microsoft provides a concrete, immediate resolution to the case. The agreement may not contain exactly everything you want, but it is a certain resolution in a time when our economy could use the certainty the agreement provides. The agreement's provisions relating to uniformity in pricing practices, an end to exclusivity requirements in distributorship contracts, and the opening of Windows to competition offer an improvement over the present situation. They also offer a degree of certainty that will not be afforded if the case continues.

Please end the case by going forward with the settlement agreement your department reached last year. We will all benefit from it.

Sincerely,



Carol Albertsen